

Statistics Weekly

Thursday, 18 November 1993

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RICHARD MADDEN
Acting Australian Statistician

Employment trend rising

Trend estimates of employed persons have been rising since February 1993. The trend in full-time employment has been increasing since October 1992, while part-time employment has increased in each of the last six months. Trend estimates of unemployment increased for the fifth successive month in October 1993, after falling between December 1992 and May 1993. The trend estimate of the unemployment rate increased to 11.1 per cent in October 1993 and the trend participation rate rose to 62.9 per cent.

Employment

The October seasonally adjusted estimate of employed persons was 7 807 000, an increase of 32 200 since September. The estimate of full-time employment increased by 47 600 to 5 964 400, mainly due to an increase of 30 700 in the number of females employed full-time, which now stands at 1 926 300. Male full-time employment increased by 16 900 to 4 038 100. Part-time employment fell in the month, with decreases in the number of both males and females employed part-time.

Unemployment

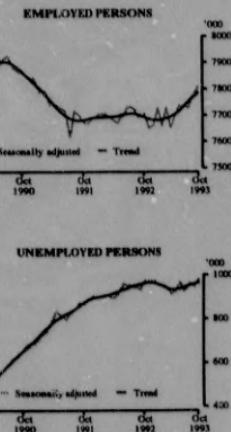
The seasonally adjusted estimate of unemployed persons in October 1993 was 982 000, an increase of 34 800 since September. The number of unemployed persons seeking full-time work increased by 21 800 to 821 900, mainly due to an increase of 15 200 in the number of unemployed males looking for full-time work. The number of unemployed persons looking for part-time work increased to 160 200, due to an increase of 13 100 in the number of unemployed females seeking part-time work. Female unemployment was 396 600, a rise of 19 700 since September, while male unemployment increased by 15 100 to 585 400.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY ESTIMATES Seasonally adjusted

	Employed				Unemployment rate — per cent —	Participation rate	
	Full-time workers	Part-time workers	Total	Unemployed			
	— '000 —						
1993							
May	5 915.1	1 781.8	7 696.9	924.8	10.7	62.2	
June	5 955.2	1 780.8	7 736.0	966.4	11.1	62.8	
July	5 917.8	1 817.3	7 735.1	924.3	10.7	62.4	
August	5 908.9	1 820.7	7 729.6	963.5	11.1	62.6	
September	5 916.8	1 857.9	7 774.7	947.2	10.9	62.7	
October	5 964.4	1 842.6	7 807.0	982.0	11.2	63.1	

Unemployment rate

The seasonally adjusted estimate of the unemployment rate was 11.2 per cent, an increase of 0.3 percentage points since September. For males, the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 11.5 per cent while for females, the unemployment rate increased by 0.4 percentage points to 10.7 per cent.



Participation rate

The seasonally adjusted estimate of the labour force participation rate in October was 63.1 per cent, an increase of 0.4 percentage points since September. For males, the participation rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 74.0 per cent. For females, the participation rate rose by 0.6 percentage points and now stands at 52.6 per cent, equal to the highest level recorded by the survey.

For further information order the publication The Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (6202.0) or contact Heather Crawford on (06) 252 6525.

Manufactured goods prices up

The price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry increased by 0.5 per cent in September 1993.

Price increases were recorded for about 40 per cent of the items in the index. The main contributors to the increase were meat (excluding smallgoods and poultry) which rose 3.3 per cent and refined petroleum products, up 2.5 per cent.

These price increases were partly offset by small price falls for about 20 per cent of the items in the index.

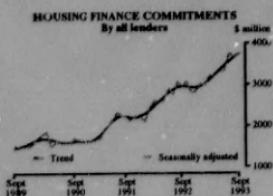
The Manufacturing Division index increased by 1.8 per cent between September 1992 and September 1993.

PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, SEPTEMBER 1993
Percentage change

Manufacturing sector	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Food, beverages and tobacco	1.2	5.6
Transport equipment	0.6	2.8
Other industrial machinery	0.2	1.3
Clothing and footwear	0.3	1.2
Fabricated metal products	-0.4	0.3
Chemicals and chemical products	0.4	0.2
Basic metal products	0.2	-1.8
Petroleum products	2.4	-7.2
<i>Total manufacturing</i>	0.5	1.8

For further information, order the publication Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia (6412.0), or contact Peter Cordy on (06) 252 5541.

Home finance growth slows further



There was a 1.3 per cent increase in the provisional trend estimate of the number of dwelling units for owner occupation for which finance was committed to individuals in September 1993. This is the lowest monthly increase since the latest upward trend began in January 1993, but is 22.1 per cent higher than in September 1992.

A fall of 4.5 per cent or more in the seasonally adjusted figure for October would reverse the current upward trend. The average monthly change in the seasonally adjusted series, without regard to sign, is about 5 per cent.

Of the different categories of housing financed, 'construction of dwellings' showed the strongest growth, at 2.1 per cent, continuing the steady upward movement since November 1991. 'Purchase of established dwellings' grew by 1.1 per cent and 'purchase of newly erected dwellings' by 0.7 per cent, both continuing the upward trends which began in January 1993.

In September the seasonally adjusted estimate for the number of dwelling units financed increased by 1.9 per cent over August and 21.1 per cent over September 1992. The unadjusted number of dwelling units financed in September was 6.6 per cent higher than August 1993 and 19.1 per cent higher than in September 1992.

HOUSING FINANCE SEPTEMBER 1993 Number of dwellings

	Established dwellings	Construction of dwellings	Newly erected dwellings	Total
<i>% change from August 1993</i>				
Trend	1.1	2.1	0.7	1.3
Seasonal	2.6	-0.3	-0.3	1.9
Unadjusted	9.3	7.2	4.2	8.6
<i>% change from September 1992</i>				
Trend	21.8	24.7	16.0	22.1
Seasonal	19.8	27.6	15.8	21.1
Unadjusted	18.2	23.9	13.3	19.1

Refinancing of dwelling units accounted for 14.9 per cent of the total September trend estimate. Last month it accounted for 15.1 per cent of the total number and in September 1992 represented 12.6 per cent.

For further information, order the publication *Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia* (5609.0), or contact **Mark Dennis** on (06) 252 7117.

Young people — the full picture

Government and community decision-makers now have a comprehensive statistical basis for their work in all areas affecting young Australians.

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the National Youth Affairs Research Scheme (NYARS), *Australia's Young People* is a new national publication that follows on from the recent release of individual State and Territory profiles on 12 to 25 year-olds.

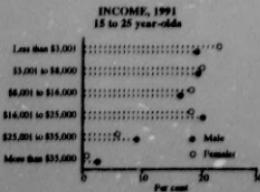
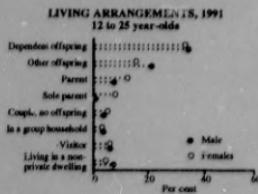
This publication is a compilation of Census data (including 1981, 1986 and 1991), and statistics drawn from a range of ABS social and labour surveys, and is designed to provide the basis for a sound understanding of 12 to 25 year-olds in Australia and the issues affecting them. *Australia's Young People* contains chapters dealing with population characteristics, cultural diversity, education, living arrangements, working life, income, and vital and health statistics.

Information focuses on sex, age (cohorts 12–14, 15–17, 18–19, 20–24, and 25), State and Territory comparisons, and cultural background — all presented in a series of comprehensive tables and graphs with descriptive commentary.

A sample of information to be found in *Australia's Young People* follows:

In 1991 —

- there were 3 662 200 12 to 25 year-olds in Australia, who comprised 22 per cent of the total population
- young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 2 per cent (79 600) of all young people
- almost 15 per cent (548 300) of young people were born overseas and of these, 40 per cent were born in the main English-speaking countries, mostly UK, Ireland and New Zealand
- young females were more likely to be parents or partners in couples (19%) than young males (9%)
- a lower proportion of young people left school at the age of 15 or younger (15%) than was the case for the total population (37%)
- there were 1 928 800 15 to 25 year-olds working or looking for work, who accounted for almost a quarter of the total labour force
- the most common occupation among young people was salespersons and personal service workers (23% or 365 000)
- over 58 per cent of 15 to 25 year-olds reported gross incomes of \$16 000 or less
- motor vehicle accidents accounted for over a third (720) of deaths among 15 to 24 year-olds. Over three-quarters of these deaths were among young males
- among 18 to 25 year-olds, 88 per cent reported their health status as good or excellent.



Home growers and the Australian food production industry

In the year ended April 1992, about 153 000 tonnes of vegetables and 110 000 tonnes of fruit were produced by Australian home growers. Domestic hens laid about 26 million dozen eggs and recreational fishing landed a total catch of about 31 000 tonnes.

Australian home brewers bottled about 40 million litres of beer and wine making households produced about 4 million litres.

These preliminary estimates are taken from the Home Production Survey. Home production levels of selected foodstuffs were obtained in interviews from a representative sample of 34 000 households across Australia. Data were collected on fruit, vegetables and nuts grown, poultry slaughtered, eggs laid, beer and wine produced and seafood caught.

Comparisons with the Agricultural Census and other data show that home production is a small percentage of total production except in eggs and fish. Domestic egg production was almost 20 per cent of farm production, while recreational fishing's estimated catch was 14 per cent of the commercial catch in the comparable period.

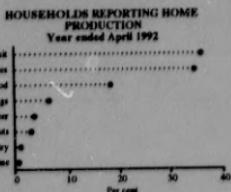
On a State basis, households in Queensland produced more fruit, eggs and beer, and caught more seafood than in any other State. Victorians produced the most vegetables, poultry and wine while South Australians picked the most nuts.

ESTIMATED HOME PRODUCTION OF SELECTED FOODSTUFFS
YEAR ENDED APRIL 1992

	Poultry (tonnes)	Seafood (tonnes)	Fruit (tonnes)	Vege- tables (tonnes)	Nuts (tonnes)	Eggs ('000 dozen)	Beer ('000 litres)	Wine ('000 litres)
NSW	356	6 585	23 153	42 818	301	5 863	10 759	865
Vic.	461	5 173	26 377	43 820	310	5 492	5 831	1 596
Qld	452	7 284	28 385	24 436	325	5 930	12 746	182
SA	238	4 756	15 686	14 982	409	3 281	4 241	708
WA	323	5 193	9 682	11 832	129	3 440	3 350	464
Tas.	111	1 191	4 067	11 069	50	1 182	1 347	60
NT	10	471	1 419	805	6	248	1 102	2
ACT	1	289	1 186	2 925	12	102	422	64
Aust.	1 953	30 943	109 959	152 685	1 541	26 138	39 799	3 940

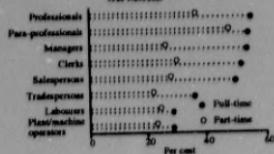
More details will be available in the publication which will be released shortly.

For further information, order the publication Home Production of Selected Foodstuffs, Australia (7110.0), or contact Henry Stefanik on 008 801 520.



Change afoot in the workplaces of Australia

EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE WORKED WITH THEIR CURRENT EMPLOYER FOR ONE YEAR OR MORE



A new Australian Bureau of Statistics data collection has confirmed a very high incidence of change in the working lives of Australian employees.

Results from a survey of career experience, conducted for the first time in February 1993, showed that more than three-quarters (78%) of Australia's 6.3 million wage and salary earners had worked with their current employer for one year or more.

Almost all (96%) of these employees reported some change in their work in the last 12 months. The changes most commonly reported were 'more responsibility' (42%), 'new, different or extra duties' (39%) and 'used different computer based equipment or packages' (32%).

EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE WORKED WITH THEIR CURRENT EMPLOYER FOR ONE YEAR OR MORE: ALL CHANGES IN WORK, FEBRUARY 1993

All changes in work with current employer in the last 12 months	Full-time	Part-time	Males	Females	Persons
— per cent —					
Employees excluding owner managers					
Promoted	8.9	2.0	7.6	7.6	7.6
Transferred	10.1	3.9	8.9	9.0	9.0
Employees including owner managers					
Change in hours	12.3	28.5	13.1	18.1	15.2
Used different computer based equipment or packages	34.7	18.1	31.4	32.0	31.7
Used other different machinery, tools or equipment	21.3	12.8	23.2	15.2	19.8
Changed location of employment	10.8	5.7	10.6	9.0	9.9
New, different or extra duties	41.8	26.9	38.6	39.8	39.1
More responsibility	45.1	25.8	42.2	40.9	41.6
None of the above	4.8	2.9	5.1	3.6	4.5
— '000 —					
	408.3	894.5	2,811.6	2,131.0	4,942.5

Of all employees who had worked with their current employer for one year or more, 8 per cent had been promoted in the last twelve months and 9 per cent had transferred to another position with their employer. Employees working at large locations (100 or more employees) were more likely to have been promoted and transferred (10% and 12%) than those at very small locations (less than 10 employees) where 3 per cent had been promoted and 4 per cent transferred.

Along with the changes occurring in the workplace, 42 per cent of the 4.6 million wage and salary employees who had worked with their current employer for one year or more reported that their work performance had been formally appraised in the last twelve months.

The industries where performance appraisal was most common were:

- finance, property and business services (60%);
- electricity, gas and water (50%); and
- public administration and defence (49%).

Continued ...

For full-time employees, 45 per cent had been given a formal appraisal compared with 30 per cent of part-time employees. For both full-time and part-time workers, the proportion of employees who had been appraised was higher for females than for males.

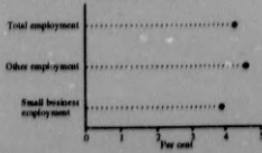
In February 1993, there were 1.3 million employees who had been with their current employer for less than 1 year. Of these, 63 per cent worked full time and 59 per cent were permanent employees. In comparison, 2.5 million employees had been with their current employer for 5 years or more. Of this group, 87 per cent worked full time and 91 per cent were permanently employed.

The survey also collected details of breaks from work. In February 1993, there were 200 400 job-holders who had had a break from work of six months or more, while with their current employer. The majority of this group were female (69%), two-thirds of whom took the break for family reasons. Females were more likely to have had unpaid leave (53%) than males (32%) and for longer periods of time. Some 34 per cent of females who had taken a break, had breaks of one year or more compared with 29 per cent of males.

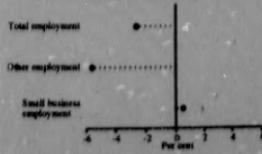
For further information, order the publication Career Experience, Australia (6254.0), or contact Mark Patton on (06) 252 7204.

Small business in Australia

NON-AGRICULTURAL PRIVATE SECTOR
AVERAGE ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT GROWTH
1983-84 TO 1989-90



NON-AGRICULTURAL PRIVATE SECTOR
AVERAGE ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT GROWTH
1989-90 TO 1991-92



There were some 859 000 private sector small businesses in Australia in 1991-92, making up 95 per cent of all private sector businesses. These businesses employed 2.8 million people or nearly 52 per cent of all private sector employment. Of these, about 102 000 were small agricultural businesses which employed 235 000 people.

In terms of employment, non-agricultural private sector small business appears to have withstood the recession better than the larger business sector. Employment growth through the 1980s in the small business sector averaged 3.9 per cent per annum. Over the past two years it has been significantly lower at 0.5 per cent per annum.

Compared with the large business sector, however, the growth has been quite good, as the following table shows.

AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH: EMPLOYMENT
Per cent

	1983-84 to 1989-90	1989-90 to 1991-92
Small businesses	3.9	0.5
Other	4.6	-5.7

Between 1989-90 and 1991-92 it has been the services sector where small business job growth has been maintained. Sixty thousand new jobs have been created there, while, over the same period, employment in the goods producing sector has declined by about 35 000.

These are some of the conclusions that can be reached from the latest update of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' comprehensive reference publication on small business released this month.

For further information, order the publication Small Business in Australia (1321.0), or contact Christine Price on (06) 252 5746.

This week in brief ...

Mining production

The value of minerals produced in the metallic minerals, coal, oil and gas sectors declined in 1991-92 by 1.2 per cent from \$26 293.1 million in 1990-91 to \$25 985.4 million. Although increases were recorded in the metallic minerals and coal mining industries the major contributor to the decrease was a fall in revenue generated by the oil and gas industry of \$818 million (9.5%) during 1991-92.

The value of metallic minerals increased by \$47.3 million (0.4%) and coal by \$462.7 million (6.9%). Australia continued in 1991 to be the world's largest producer of bauxite (37.6% of the total world production), diamonds (33.3%), lead (16.3%) and the mineral sands ilmenite (47.6%), rutile (44.4%) and zircon (36.5%).

The value of gold bullion produced increased by 6.4 per cent from \$3 567.7 million in 1990-91 to \$3 796.6 million in 1991-92. The value of iron ore (excluding Tasmania) also increased, by 10.0 per cent from \$2 944.6 million in 1990-91 to \$3 239.0 million in 1991-92.

Source: Mining Production, Australia, 1991-92 (B405.0).

Consumption of foodstuffs

Preliminary results for 1992-93 show that the apparent per capita consumption of meat and meat products fell by 1.8 per cent to 79.6 kg. Major factors in this decline were reductions in apparent per capita consumption of offal and other meat, down 24.2 per cent to 2.5 kg, and lamb, down 6.7 per cent to 12.5 kg. A significant increase occurred in the per capita intake of mutton which rose 11.8 per cent to 8.5 kg. Veal rose by 6.3 per cent to 1.7 kg whereas beef fell by 1.1 per cent to 35.4 kg. The consumption of pigmeat decreased by 2.1 per cent to 18.9 kg per capita in 1992-93, after rising 7.2 per cent during the previous year. The apparent per capita consumption of poultry increased by 2.7 per cent to 26.5 kg in 1992-93.

Source: Apparent Consumption of Selected Foodstuffs, Australia, 1992-93, Preliminary (4315.0).

Pay indexes

Over the 12 months to September 1993, the weekly award rates of pay index for full-time adult employees rose by 0.8 per cent. For full-time adult males and full-time adult females the indexes rose by 0.7 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively. The largest movements over the period for full-time adult females occurred in the recreation, personal and other services industry (2.5%), and in the public administration and defence industry (2.1%).

Continued ...

For full-time adult males the largest increases occurred in the public administration and defence industry (1.7%), in the wholesale and retail trade industry, and in the recreation, personal and other services industry (both 1.3%).

Source: Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia, September 1993 (6312.0).

Wine production down slightly

Preliminary results from the wine production and wine stocks collections indicate that there were 413.9 million litres of beverage wine produced in Australia in 1992-93, a decrease of 1.8 per cent from 1991-92. This was primarily due to a decrease of 27.7 per cent in fortified wine production.

Wine production fell in both South Australia (down 12.7%) and Victoria (down 7.2%) while production in New South Wales increased by 16.3 per cent. Despite this, South Australia remains the State which produces most wine with 45 per cent of Australian production, followed by New South Wales with 37 per cent and Victoria with 17 per cent.

The quantity of fresh grapes crushed in 1992-93 decreased by 1.4 per cent to 610 667 tonnes. South Australia's share of the Australian crush decreased from 51.4 per cent in 1991-92 to 46.2 per cent while during the same period the New South Wales proportion increased by from 31.6 per cent to 37.2 per cent.

For further information contact Peter Carnalt on (08) 237 7632.

Finance in brief ...

Personal Finance

The provisional trend estimate for personal finance commitments for September 1993 was \$1 847.8 million, an increase of \$33.3 million (1.8%) on August 1993 and an increase of \$112.7 million (6.5%) on September 1992.

The trend estimates for fixed loan facilities increased by \$19.8 million (1.7%) and commitments under revolving credit facilities increased by \$13.6 million (2.0%) on August 1993.

Commercial Finance

The provisional trend estimate for commercial finance commitments for September 1993 was \$7 003.0 million, a decrease of \$196.2 million (2.7%) on August 1993 and down \$419.7 million (5.7%) on September 1992.

The September 1993 trend estimate for commitments under fixed loan facilities fell by \$10.1 million (0.3%). The trend estimate for commitments under revolving credit facilities decreased by \$186.0 million (4.7%).

Lease Finance

The provisional trend estimate for lease finance commitments for September 1993 was \$459.3 million, a small increase of \$2.2 million (0.5%) on August 1993 and up \$52.1 million (12.8%) on September 1992.

These series are available on subscription to a special data service. For further information, contact Mark Dennis on (06) 252 7117.

Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- through its bookshops
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Order from the following:

Expected releases over the fortnight to 30 November

- [18] Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia, August 1993 (6302.0; \$12.70)
Export Price Index, Australia, September 1993 (6405.0; \$8.20)
- [23] Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia, September 1993 (6411.0; \$10.70)
Import Price Index, Australia, September 1993 (6414.0; \$8.20)
- [24] Private New Capital Expenditure, Australia, Actual and Expected Expenditure to June 1994, September Quarter 1993 Survey, Preliminary (5625.0; \$10.70)
Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, October 1993, Preliminary (9301.0; \$10.70)
- [25] Stocks, Manufacturers' Sales and Expected Sales to June 1994, Australia, September Quarter 1993 (5629.0; \$10.70)
Company Profits, Australia, September Quarter 1993 (5651.0; \$10.70)
Manufacturing Production, Australia, October 1993, Preliminary (8301.0; \$10.70)
- [26] Balance of Payments, Australia, September Quarter 1993 (5302.0; \$21.40)
Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, September 1993 (6407.0; \$10.70)
Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, September 1993 (6408.0; \$8.20)
- [29] Balance of Payments, Australia, October 1993 (5301.0; \$16.30)
Building Approvals, Australia, October 1993 (8731.0; \$13.30)
- [20] Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, September Quarter 1993 (5206.0; \$26.00)
Quarterly Indexes of Industrial Production, Australia, September Quarter 1993 (8125.0; \$10.70)

Selected releases: 10 to 16 November

General

GEOSTATS Small Area Data Service: Reference Manual, 1993 (1324.0; \$40.00)
— final issue

Social statistics

Parent Consumption of Selected Foodstuffs, Aust., 1992-93, Preliminary (4315.0; \$10.70)

National accounts, Finance and Foreign trade

Foreign Trade, Aust., Merchandise Exports, 1992-93 (5424.0; \$18.40)
— final issue

Foreign Trade, Aust., Merchandise Imports, 1992-93 (5426.0; \$18.40)
— final issue

State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure, June Qtr 1993 (5646.0; \$10.70)

Labour statistics and Prices

The Labour Force, Aust. — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk, October 1993 (6271.0; \$6.60)

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Aust., September 1993 (6312.0; \$12.70)
A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, March 1993 (6440.0; \$10.00)

Agriculture

Livestock Products — Meat, Qld, September 1993 (7204.3; \$5.10)

Manufacturing, Mining, Energy, Service industries, Building and Construction

Manufacturing Industry, Qld, 1990-91 (8221.3; \$16.00)

Manufacturing Industry, WA, 1990-91 (8221.5; \$16.30)

The latest — consolidated to 16 November 1993

12

Key national indicators	Period	Units	Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
National accounts						
Gross domestic product (GDP(A)) at 1989-90 prices	June qtr 93	\$m	n.a.	95 250	1.2	3.3
International accounts						
Balance on current account (b)	September 93	\$m	-1 629	-1 139	12	23
Balance on merchandise trade (b)	"	"	-208	110	—	-5
Balance on goods and services (b)	"	"	-546	-10	96	95
Merchandise exports	"	"	5 492	5 644	9	9
Merchandise imports	"	"	-5 700	-5 534	4	9
Net foreign debt	30 June 93	\$m	172 325	n.a.	7.5	12.9
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	222 984	n.a.	7.2	12.2
Consumption and investment						
Retail turnover at current prices	September 93	\$m	8 099	8 224	0.8	3.2
New capital expenditure at current prices	June qtr 93	\$m	6 570	6 308	-3.0	6.0
New motor vehicle registrations	September 93	no.	42 545	39 636	-23.4	-10.0
Production						
Manufacturers' sales at 1989-90 prices	June qtr 93	\$m	34 296	34 540	0.9	1.2
Dwelling unit approvals	September 93	no.	15 738	14 889	2.3	11.4
Building approvals	"	\$m	2 478	2 388	6.2	29.1
Building work done at 1989-90 prices	June qtr 93	\$m	6 023	6 044	-3.1	2.2
Prices						
Consumer price index	September qtr 93	1989-90 = 100.0	109.8	n.a.	0.5	2.2
Articles produced by manufacturing industry	September 93	1988-89 = 100.0	116.0	n.a.	0.5	1.8
Materials used in manufacturing industries	August 93	1984-85 = 100.0	127.1	n.a.	-0.1	0.0
Labour force and demography						
Employed persons	October 93	'000	7 828.7	7 807.0	0.4	1.3
Participation rate †	"	%	62.8	63.1	0.4	0.1
Unemployment rate †	"	%	10.4	11.2	0.3	0.0
Job vacancies	August qtr 93	'000	39.0	37.3	18.0	38.9
Average weekly overtime per employee	"	hours	1.15	1.19	-0.5	8.3
Estimated resident population	December qtr 92	million	17.6	n.a.	0.2	1.1
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals	August 93	'000	240	257	5.5	20.8
Incomes						
Company profits before income tax	June qtr 93	\$m	3 978	4 435	-1.8	33.6
Av. weekly earnings, full-time adults; ordinary time (d)	August qtr 93	\$	600.80	n.a.	0.5	2.6
Financial markets						
Interest rates (e) (monthly average)	September 93	% per annum	4.85	n.a.	2.1	-18.5
90-day bank bills †	"	%	6.85	n.a.	3.0	-23.5
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	per \$A	0.6521	n.a.	-4	-10
Exchange rate — \$US (c)	"					

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (c) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (d) Later figures expected to be released Thursday, 18 November 1993.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Percentage change from same period previous year

Key State indicators	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aus.
New capital expenditure	March qtr 93	-0.1	4.7	-9.3	16.8	38.7	20.3	n.a.	n.a.	6.3
Retail turnover (trade estimate)	September 93	-1.2	5.3	3.0	5.0	11.1	1.2	n.a.	5.0	3.0
New motor vehicle registrations†	September 93	-9.6	-2.1	-23.1	-10.0	-5.8	-20.8	7.9	21.0	-10.0
Number of dwelling unit approvals*	September 93	0.2	14.5	30.0	-13.9	20.3	-4.4	173.6	-37.4	11.4
Value of total building work done	June qtr 93	-8.0	-6.1	18.6	13.0	31.3	-17.3	-6.7	-11.2	2.8
Employed persons*	October 93	0.9	0.7	2.5	-0.8	4.6	-1.5	0.4	3.7	1.3
Capital city consumer price index	June qtr 93	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.9
/ weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time)	May qtr 93	0.1	2.2	5.0	1.7	-0.1	2.0	2.5	4.2	1.8
Population	Dec. qtr 92	0.9	0.5	2.5	0.5	1.2	0.5	1.0	1.5	1.1
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc.	June qtr 93	4.6	3.6	12.2	-0.6	8.3	6.0	13.3	-7.1	6.4

* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 7). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important. The ABS should be acknowledged as the source when reproducing or quoting any part of this publication.

